(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to improve the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The National Thermal Power Corporation has not suffered any loss in generation of power during 1986-87 (upto October, 1986) due to coal supplies to its power stations.

(b) Does not arise.

Salal Hydro Electric Project

1284. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Salal Hydel project has taken a long time for its completion;

(b) whether it is also a fact that official announcements made from time to time for its completion have been proved false;

(c) whether any date has been fixed for the commissioning of this 600-crore rupees project; and

(d) by when this project will be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) The Salal Hydro-electric Project was initially approved as a State project. It was taken up in the Central Sector in 1970 and later entrusted for implementation to the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) in 1978. The Project earlier envisaged installation of a generating capacity of 270 MW which was increased to 345 MW by shifting the power house from the left bank to the right bank. Difficult and unanticipated geo-technical strata in the foundation of the concrete Dam and presence of major shear zone surcharged with water in the tail race tunnel have, among other factors, necessitated revision of the time schedule.

(c) and (d) All major works are now in an advanced stage of completion and the project is scheduled to be commissioned in March, 1987.

Indo-Tunisian agreement

1285. SHRI SUBAS PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Tunisian agreement has been concluded on joint ventures; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) No specific agreement for setting up of any joint ventures was signed. However, during the visit of Minister of State for Industrial Development to Tunisia in October, 1986 an agreed minutes of discussions was signed. The agreed minutes, *inter alia*, indicate the projects in which joint ventures in Tunisia are possible and include manufacture of parts and components for cycles and motor-cycles, manufacture of shoes for exports, manufacture of solar cookers, solar air conditioners, solar pumps etc. Projects that would need exchange of information concerning their implementation have also been identified.

Deficit in power generation

1286. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country will face a peak demand deficit of 20 per cent in power generation by the end of the Seventh Plan Period; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the said deficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) According to the Twelfth Power Survey, the peaking shortage by the end of the Seventh Plan period is estimated to be of the order of 10,000 MW.

(b) The measures taken to improve the power supply position include installation of additional generating capacity, better utilisation of existing capacity, implementation of the renovation and modernisation programme for thermal stations, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, and demand management and energy conservation measures.

Transfer of some public sector undertakings to private management

1287. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1375 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th March, 1986 and state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration any specific proposals for production of power from some private sector enterpreneurs;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's views on each of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Banerjee Committee Report on BCCL

1288. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received the report of the Banerjee Committee on Bharat Coking Coal Limited; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has made about 170 recommendations/ observations regarding various aspects of working of Bharat Coking Coal Limited such as production, productivity, project implementation, management, reconstruction of Jharia coalfields, etc. The report has been sent to Coal India Limited for comments.

DESU Bills to Malviya Nagar consumers

1289. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electricity bills are not being delivered to the consumers in time by DESU authorities resulting in delayed payments thereof;

(b) whether any irregularity in despatching of bills in Malviya Nagar area of South Delhi has been noticed;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that regular bills have not been despatched to the consumers in Malviya Nagar, South Delhi during the last 2 years;

(e) whether such irregularity has caused inconvenience for accumulation of bills to the consumers; and

(f) what was the frequency of bills by DESU in Malviya Nagar during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.